

From: rogersandco@seanet.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/17/01 5:24am
Subject: COMMENT ON SETTLEMENT w/MICROSOFT

As an American citizen I must tell you I have about lost all faith in American "justice" with this so called "settlement" between the U.S. Government and Microsoft after Microsoft was found guilty of predatory (and I might add egregious) anti-trust actions.

I agree with the CEO of Sun Microsystems that what has happened is the "equivalent of being caught on tape committing murder then simply walking away scott free."

This settlement is an affront to every American's sense of justice in this country. How you lawyers can expect young kids in the barrios of East L.A. - or anywhere for that matter - to be good citizens and "obey the law" when the law is a joke and that joke is right out front for them to see, is beyond me. All you have done with this decision is prove to these kids that with enough money and power you can hire good lawyers to "get you off" (does the name O.J. Simpson come to mind here?)

I agree with Ed Black of the Computer & Communications Industry Association when he says "Every one of those (meaning the settlement "elements" that give Microsoft loopholes to slip through) is a loophole I can drive an aircraft through".

I cannot imagine what in God's name government lawyers in this case were thinking about with this insulting "settlement" unless there is some sort of kickback or favors involved here. This thing makes no sense at all to the average American.

Microsoft had a trial, fair and square. Even MORE than fair since they had the best lawyers money could buy -- something the average American does not have. Microsoft was convicted despite it's "best-in-the-land legal minds that money could buy". Now damn it, the company should pay a heavy price for breaking that law and destroying God knows how many businesses along the way -- just like any American would have to pay. In destroying those business ventures along the way with it's predatory practices Microsoft also bloodied the lives and dreams of thousands of hard working men and women.

As far as I am concerned, every government lawyer involved in this decision to slap Microsoft on the wrist is either a crook, terminally stupid or hopes that by his actions he'll end up someday with a sweet job on Microsoft's payroll.

God help us all if these lawyers are representative of the people we taxpayers have on the payroll.

Ron Faver
Seattle